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HISTORICAL SKETCH,

COVENANT

AND LIST OF THE

Officers and Members

OF THE

WEST YARMOUTH BAPTIST CHURCH,

CHEGOGGIN, N. S.

—BY—

REV. B. H. THOMAS.

1897.

YARMOUTH LIGHT PRINT.

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THE WRITER'S NOTE.

In a church, such as ours with a membership reaching up into the hundreds it is difficult for the individual members to know just who are their Brothers and Sisters in church fellowship. The aim of this little booklet is to give each member a complete register of names to be found on our church-roll; and to place a few facts before them in the form of a Historical sketch. The copy of our Covenant, together with the illustrations of church property will be appreciated.

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REV. BYRON H. THOMAS,

THE PRESENT PASTOR.

OFFICERS.

DEACONS: Wm. Corning, Nelson Foote, Jas. P. Black, Jeffrey Churchill, Stephen Churchill.

CLERK: Wm. Corning.

TREASURER: Wm. Corning.

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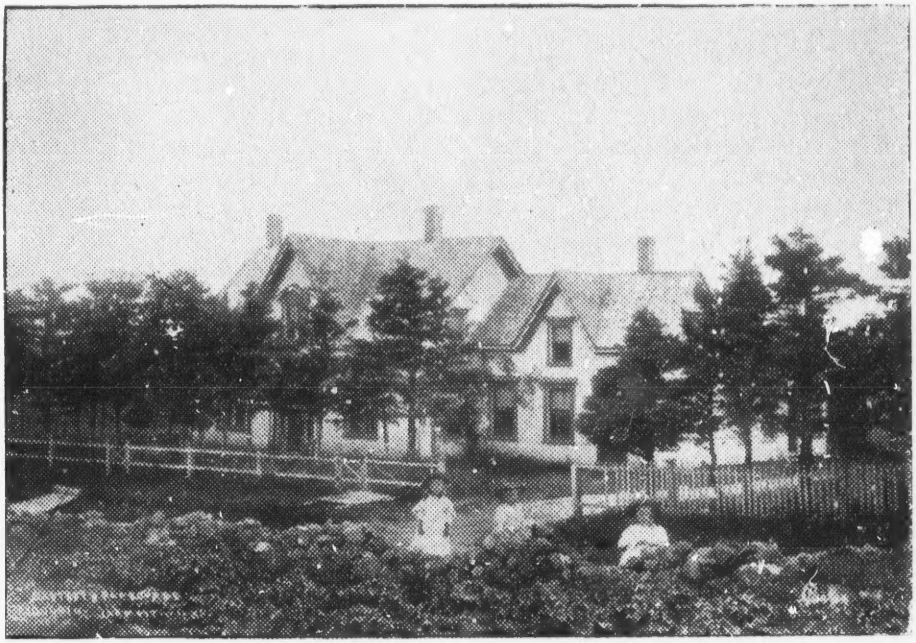

THE WEST YARMOUTH BAPTIST PROPERTY,
CHEGOGGIN, N. S.

HISTORICAL SKETCH.

Baptists have had an organized existence in what is really West Yarmouth, N. S., since the year 1853. Baptists however have lived in Chegoggin, Overton and Pembroke, since the days that our forefathers first rescued their farms from the forest primeval. Indeed the pen that traces the history of Old Zion church in Yarmouth town must of necessity mention the struggles of pioneer Baptists in these localities, for even yet "Old Zion" is spoken of as the mother church.

Precious indeed are the memories of the bye-gone blessed days when the fathers and mothers with their children gathered within the hallowed precincts of the "old round school house at the foot of the hill." Songs of salvation were joyfully sung, the voice of glad testimony was frequently heard, and God's children were often found in the attitude of supplication.

In 1853 sixty members of the old Zion church living in Chegoggin, Pembroke and Overton asked to be dismissed from the fellowship of said church in order that they might organize a Baptist church in what is really West Yarmouth with Chegoggin as a centre. The request was granted. On Saturday afternoon, April 23, 1853, they met, and after a precious season of prayer and praise the organization of the church was effected.

The following was the first Board of Deacons elected to serve the church: Zachariah Chipman, Nelson Corning, Kelley Rose and John Rose. Mr. Abner H. Huntington served as the first clerk. Mr. Walter G. Goucher, Lic., was called to the pastorate. Since then the church has been served by thirteen pastors including the present incumbent.

During the first years the growth of the church was slow, but each year witnessed accessions to the membership. In 1858 the entire community was ablaze with the glories of revival fire and 30 converts united; in 1862 under Pastor J. H. Saunders 19 became members; in 1869, 26 converted ones

became members; in 1878 the church was blessed with the largest revival in its history; 60 of the residents found pardon and joined the ranks of the church militant. Revs. J. W. Weeks and H. N. Parry were the instruments in this work of grace. In 1880, 20 accessions are reported; in 1881, 21 received the right hand of fellowship and welcome. In 1892, under Rev. G. W. Schurman, the church enjoyed its second largest revival in its history—44 were placed on the membership roll. In the year 1896 the present pastor has had the joy of giving the hand of fellowship to 20 new members.

Of course these references are to the largest revivals, nearly all the years have witnessed accessions all the way from 1 to 16 candidates. We give the totals covering the entire period as follows: 409 baptized, 79 added by letter; 100 have been dismissed to other churches, 67 have been excluded; 138 have been translated to the church triumphant. The present membership is 278. Three of the original members of the church are still living, Mrs. M. Trask, Mrs. M. J. Harris and Mrs. Hannah Beveridge; two of the original members have recently died, Mrs. S. A. Palmer and Mrs. M. J. Rose.

So far as we know we claim to be the only Baptist church in the Province that resorts to strictly New Testament methods of raising church finances. The entire work of the church is sustained by the free, unsolicited plate offerings of the people. In this way over $800.00 were raised last year.

The present edifice, a picture of which is herewith given, is the original structure built in 1850; it has, however, been remodelled and enlarged somewhat, the tower and spire being added in later years. In addition to the church edifice the church owns a commodious parsonage with about four acres of land.

Nine new horse sheds have recently been constructed at Chegoggin adding to the value of church property, and to the comfort of the teams of the worshipers The church is indebted to Bro. Capt. Samuel Corning for the use of the land upon which the sheds have been erected.

The Hall property at Overton is a substantial structure; and regular services are held each Lord's Day afternoon; a well sustained Sabbath school holds weekly sessions. The

Wednesday evening prayer meeting is an established part of our work here. The friends in this place have recently put repairs on the interior of the Hall, improving the platform arrangements very much. New pulpit furniture has been added. The efficient choir is led by Mr. G. Israel Allen.

B. Y. P. U. work is an established reality both in Chegoggin and Overton. Two healthy Mission Bands are at work with the aim of intensifying interest in missions among our boys and girls.

A Woman's Mission Aid Society has been formed and is at work along their own lines. A more united and better organized church can scarce be found among the sisterhood of churches in our convention.

The non-resident members of the church are scattered throughout the continent, and even throughout the world. The influence then of our much loved Zion can truly be said to be universal. The church has had the joy of sending forth two of her sons to be preachers of the everlasting gospel—Archibald Foote and John Tucker. Bro. Foote was not permitted to finish his studies at Acadia College whither he had gone, but was called to the service of the life beyond this. It is our joy to report that the Master's "go ye" is upon Sister Edna Corning one of the promising daughters of our church. Sister Corning may in the providence of God, serve the cause of Missions in India.

The membership of the church includes the villages of Overton, Pembroke, Chegoggin and Sandford, with a number of families in Middleton and Cape Forchu. West Yarmouth Baptists are grateful to the Great Head of the church for the many blessings that have come to them; giving them a leading place among the rural churches of the province.

"I love thy church, O God;
Her walls before Thee stand,
Dear as the apple of thine eye,
And graven on Thy hand.

For her my tears shall fall,
For her my prayers ascend;
To her my cares and toils be giv'n,
Till toils and cares shall end."

CHURCH COVENANT.

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour; and, on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now, in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotion; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Saviour, to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage, that when we remove from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant, and the principles of God's word.

THE WEST YARMOUTH BAPTIST CHURCH,
CHEGOGGIN, N. S.

Constructed in 1850 and twice remodelled.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

Allen, G. Israel
Allen, Asenath
Allen, Norman
Allen, Jennie
Allen, Lettie
Allen, Georgie
Allen, Letitia
Allen, May
Bain, Ina
Bain, Bessie
Bain, William
Bain, J. Delancey
Bain, Margaret
Bain, Hannah
Bain, Mary
Bain, Frederic
Bain, Charles
Brayn, Mary
Brown, Lydia
Bethune, William
Bethune, Adelbert
Bethune, Georgiana
Bethune, Agusta J
Beveridge, Amos
Beveridge, Hannah
Black, Deacon James P.
Black, Elizabeth
Black, Julia H
Black, Charles
Bell, James N
Blake, Isabel
Bridgeo, Eunice
Bell, Sarah L.
Churchill, Grace
Churchill, Deacon Stephen
Churchill, Deacon Jeffery
Churchill, Alvin
Churchill, Eunice
Churchill, Elizabeth
Churchill, Myrtle
Churchill, Grace
Churchill, Beatrice
Churchill, Israel
Churchill, Frederic
Churchill, George W.
Churchill, Martha
Churchill, Nathan
Churchill, Nellie
Churchill, Mary H.
Churchill, Etta

Carey, David
Carey, Hannah
Carey, Ella
Carey, Adelbert
Carey, Hattie
Cann, James
Cann, Elizabeth
Cann, Bertie
Cann, Joseph
Cann, Margaret
Cann, Harvey
Cann, Annie M
Cann, Mrs. Harvey
Cann, Edric
Cann, Hattie
Cann, Eva J.
Cann, William
Corning, Jefferson
Corning, Sarah
Corning, William H.
Corning, Deacon William
Corning, Hannah
Corning, Samuel
Corning, Gertrude
Corning, Sadie
Corning, Edna C
Corning, John C.
Corning, Howard
Corning, Edgar
Corning, Rufus
Corning, Delilah
Corning, Ethel
Corning, Alice L.
Corning, Geo. P.
Clifford, Samuel
Clark, Della
Clark, Sarah
Cole, Alister
Cole, Bertha
Crowell, Emma J.
Cook, Georgie
Cushing, Edward H.
Cushing, Maggie H.
Cushing, Lucy
Doane, Evelyn
Doane, Prince I.
Doane, Joshua
Doane, Elizabeth
Doane, Bethiah
Doane, Alice

Doane, Margaret L.
Doane, Cora
Doane, Rose
Doane, Clarence
Doane, Howard
Doane, Hiram
Doane, Lottie
Doane, Catherine
Doane, Thomas
Doty, Chipman
Dalton, Jessie
Dalton, Nellie
Durkee, Richard
Durkee, Adeliade
Durkee, Lurancy
Durkee, William
Durkee, Ralph
Durkee, Edward
Durkee, Pearl Sr.
Durkee, Mrs. Pearl
Durkee, Alvah
Durkee, Ellen
Durkee, John
Durkee, Lydia
Durkee, Maggie
Durkee, Alice
Durkee, Pearl
Durkee, Ellen
Durkee, Anne
Deveaux, Joseph H.
Foote, Lavinia
Foote, Henrietta
Foote, Eunice
Foote, Elizabeth
Foote, Elmira
Foote, James H.
Foote, Nelson
Foote, John
Foote, Mark
Foote, Alice
Foote, Agnes
Foote, Alvin
Foote, John
Foote, Miner
Foote, Charles
Foote, Roy
Foote, Blanche
Foote, Ethel
Foote, Lottie
Foote, Budd
Foote, Mary
Foote, Nellie
Foote, Elizabeth
Fevens, Charles
Goudey, Zechariah
Goudey, Julia A.
Goudey, Annie
Goudey, Mrs Ansel
Harris, Mary E.
Harris, Margaret
Harris, Lyman
Harris, Laura
Haskell, Augusta
Haley, Mary

Jaffrey, James
Jaffrey, Alvah
Killam, Richard
Killam, Geo.
Killam, Isaac, sr.
Killam, Isaac, jr.
Killam, Maria A.
Killam, Stephen
Killam, Hannah
Killam, Susan B.
Killam, Luretta
Killam, Mabel
Killam, Charles
Killam, Mercy
Lewis, James F.
Lewis, Gertie M.
Lent, George
Lent, Frank
Lent, Annie
Lyons, William
Lyons, Ethel
Morse, Egbert
Montague, Alice
Moses, Jacob
McKenna, Wm.
McKenna, Henry
McKenna, Lois
McKenna, Ella
McKenna, Thomas
McKinnon, Alexander
McKinnon, Alice
Porter, Emma
Porter, James B.
Porter, Eben
Porter, Mrs. Eben
Porter, Ruth
Porter, Annie
Porter, Frederic
Porter, Agnes
Perry, Hardy
Palmer, Harris
Palmer, Mary
Palmer, Nellie
Pitman, Nathaniel
Ritche, Luella
Rose, Estella
Rose, Jacob
Rose, Cecilia
Rose, James K.
Rose, Eliza
Rose, David
Rose, Lois
Rose, Laura
Rose, Elma
Rose, William
Rose, Emma
Rose, Henry
Rose, Mary
Rose, Nellie
Rose, Alice
Scoville, Reuben
Scoville, Sarah
Scoville, Nettie
Scoville, Lottie

Scoville, Leah
Scoville, William
Scoville, Etta
Scoville, Asa
Scoville, James
Smith, Jane
Stanwood, Howard
Stanwood, Edna
Stanwood, Letitia
Stanwood, Emily H.
Servant, Zebulon
Servant, Mary
Servant, Alfred
Strickland, Augusta
Spinney, Kady
Tedford, Hannah
Tedford, Addie
Tedford, Clara
Tedford, Hattie
Thurber, Janet

Thomas, Rev. Byron
Thomas, Bessie M.
Tnompson, Frederic
Trask, Matilda
Trask, Egbert
Trask, Annie
Vickery, Ada
Vickery, George R.
Vickery, Alvah R.
Vickery, Geo.
Vickery, Lillian
Walker, Christina
Webster, Robert
Williams, William
Williams, Bessie
Williams, Hattie
Williamson, Whitman
Wetmore, Thomas
Wetmore, Mrs. Thomas
Wyman, Annie